

## **SFD Dispatch Policy and Guideline Manual**

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### **TORNADO PLAN**

A tornado watch means that conditions are favorable for a tornado during the watch period. There is no announcement made for a tornado watch.

A tornado warning means there has been an issuance of a warning by the National Weather Service or local television weather. A tornado warning means that an active tornado is likely to exist based on weather radar or actual confirmed weather spotter sighting.

When dispatch receives information about a tornado warning for **Washington or Benton Counties**, the dispatcher shall notify all SFD fire stations and the appropriate volunteer fire departments if their communities are in the path of the storm.

#### **Dispatchers will follow this procedure when notifying the stations of a tornado warning:**

Transmit the ALL CALL TONE and the appropriate volunteer tone(s) if the storm is in the path of that community.

*“Attention Station and Units, the National Weather Service has issued a tornado warning for (give the county) until (give the time the warning expires). Station Clear (give the current time) or WNNO 487.”*

#### **Dispatchers will follow this procedure when notifying the stations if an actual tornado is sighted in Springdale city limits:**

Transmit the ALL CALL TONE

*“Attention all Springdale Fire Department Personnel, a tornado has been sighted inside the city limits of Springdale, (give the actual location of the tornado if available).”*

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In the event that a tornado does strike within the Springdale city limits, run assignments will be different than usual. The fire dispatcher and/or the dispatch shift supervisor will need to coordinate responses with the Battalion 1 or other fire department command staff as indicated.

**After the tornado warning expires, follow this procedure to notify the units that the tornado has expired:**

Transmit the ALERT 1 tone for 5 – 8 seconds

*“Attention all Stations and Units, the National Weather Service has allowed the tornado warning for (give the county) to expire. Station clear (give the time) or WNNO 487.”*